GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2265
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
BIRD HIT ACCIDENTS AT IGI AIRPORT
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the IGI Airport is vulnerable to danger from bird hits;

(b) if so, whether the Airport Authority has devised any plan to reduce such dangers; and

(c) the details of steps taken by the Government to reduce the chances of bird hits at the aiport during the last two years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a):- No, Sir. There were four bird strikes at Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport in 1999-2000 and three in 2000-2001.

(b) and (c):- In view of the vulnerability of airports due to bird strikes Airports Authority of India (AAI) has takenthe following important steps to prevent bird strikes:-

1. Regular grass cutting by machines as well as manually.
2. Filling up of low-lying areas and evolving drainage system.
3. Insecticide spraying
4. Proper collection and disposal of garbage using polythene bags.
5. Deployment of sharpshooters and bird scarers.

In addition to the above, AAI coordinates with, and advises local Municipal bodies to take action on the following issues:-

a) Prevention of illegal de-skinning of dead animals in the open and establishment of modern carcass processing plant.

b) Removal of slums from the environs of the airports.

c) Creation of incinerators or garbage processing plants.

d) Zon Guns, which produce scaring sound, are deployed to scare away the birds.

e) Weekly inspection of areas around IGI airport is being conducted alongwith municipal officials.

f) Bleaching powder is being sprayed along the shoulders of runway to control the insects movement on the runway.

g) Trees around and inside the IGI airport are being pruned regularly to distract birds nesting.